

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR UN KS KN

SUBJ: KOREA AT 30TH UNGA: RECOMMENDATION ON UN PRESENCE

REF: STATE 069905

FROM AMBASSADOR SCALI

1. USUN AGREES WITH STRATEGY OUTLINED REFTTEL ON SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCING UNITED NATIONS COMMEND (UNC) FUNCTIONS IN KOREA BEFORE OPENING OF NEXT UNGA. IN ADDITION WE SHOULD ELIMINATE RAPIDLY THE MOST VISIBLE SIGNS OF THE UN PRESENCE IN KOREA BEFORE SUBMITTING OUT KOREAN RESOLUTION, AND ESPECIALLY BEFORE NON-ALIGNED MEETING IN LIMA IN JULY.

2. USUN HAS IN MIND SUCH SYMBOLIC APPURTENANCES OF THE UNC AS THE UN FLAG, UN ARMBANDS, AND THRID COUNTRY "HONOR GUARDS" IN THE DMZ. NORTH KOREA AND ITS SUPPORTERS SCORED DECISIVE DEBATING POINTS DURING LAST YEAR'S UNGA SESSION BY CHARGING THAT THE US WAS APPROPRIATING UN SYMBOLS FOR ITS OWN USE IN KOREA AND MADE "WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS UNDER THE UN FLAG" THE CENTERPICE OF THEIR ANNUAL RESOLUTION (WHICH WE BARELY DEFEATED LAST FALL). WE WOULD EXPECT THE DPRK TO USE THIS FORMULATION AGAIN AT THE 30TH UNGA BECAUSE THE ASSERTION OF UNILATERAL US APPROPRIATION OF THE UN FLAG SOME TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AFTER THE EVENT PROVIDES THE NORTH WITH ITS MOST POTENT WEAPON IN THE ASSEMBLY. ACCORDINGLY, WE NEED TO DEMONSTRATE DRAMATICALLY

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THAT 1) US TROOPS IN KOREA ARE THERE UNDER THE TERMS OF A

BILATERAL TREATY, DULY REGISTERED WITH THE UN UNDER THE CHARTER; AND 2) THE UNC IS CONCERNED EXCLUSIVELY WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT IN THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION (MAC) AND DOES NOT EMPLOY THE UN FLAG AND SYMBOLS UNNECESSARILY.

3. TO HAVE MAXIMUM EFFECT THE US SHOULD TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS BEFORE WE INTRODUCE OUR KOREAN RESOLUTION THIS SUMMER AND BEFORE THE NON-ALIGNED MEETING IN JULY:

A) ON A PRE-ARRANGED DAY THIS SPRING WE WOULD NOT RAISE THE UN FLAG IN THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE OR ON TRANSPORT INTO THE DMZ. ON THE SAME DAY, WE WOULD REPLACE UN HELMETS, ARMBANDS AND OTHER UN EMBLEMS AND INSCRIPTIONS IN THE DMZ WITH US OR ROK INSIGNIA AS APPROPRIATE, AND MADE APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENT.

B) A FEW DAYS LATER THE US AND ROK WOULD SEND A JOINT NOTE EITHER TO THE SYG OR THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL STATING THAT, IN RESPONSE TO UNGA RESOLUTION 3333, THE TWO GOVERNMENTS ARE INTRODUCING A PHASED PROGRAM DESIGNED TO BRING TO AN END THE UNC WHILE MAINTAINING IN FORCE THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AND ITS MACHINERY. THE NOTE WOULD STATE THE INTENTION OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE PROMPTLY FURTHER STEPS TO ACCOMPLISH THE FULL TERMINATION OF THE UNC AND EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT OTHER SIGNATORIES TO THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT WILL COOPERATE IN THIS EFFORT.

C) SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH SENDING OF LETTER TO UN, MILITARY USE OF THE UN FLAG AND OTHER VISIBLE REMINDERS OF UN PRESENCE WOULD CEASE THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE ROK.

4. A NEGATIVE NORTH KOREAN AND/OR PRC RESPONSE TO ABOVE SHOULD SUBSTANTIALLY WEAKEN THEIR EFFORTS TO SECURE PASSAGE OF A HOSTILE KOREAN RESOLUTION IN THE 30TH UNGA. WE WOULD, IN THIS EVENT, BE ABLE TO TAKE THE OFFENSIVE WITH ARGUMENT THAT NORTH KOREA ITSELF CONTINUES TO INSIST ON USE OF UN SYMBOLS IN KOREA AND THEREBY RESISTS EFFORTS TO TERMINATE THE UNC. ON THE OTHER HAND, POSITIVE OR NON-COMMITTAL RESPONSES FROM OTHER SIDE COULD FACILITATE SUBSTANTIVE STEPS FORESEEN PARA 3 REFTTEL.

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5. TO ASSURE UNDERSTANDING AND ESSENTIAL SUPPORT FOR SUCH A SCENARIO WE OUGHT WORK NOT ONLY WITH ROK BUT WITH OUR CLOSE ALLIES ON KOREA ISSUE, SUCH AS UK, JAPAN, CANADA AND NEW ZEALAND, AND SHOULD INFORM FRIENDLY MEMBERS OF SECURITY COUNCIL, SUCH AS FRANCE, IN ADVANCE OF ANY ACTIONS WE PLANNING TO TAKE. MEANWHILE, WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT SHORTNESS OF TIME REMAINING TO US FOR LAUNCHING OF ANY INITIATIVE ON KOREA.
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